



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: **Second Tuesday** of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the **First Tuesday** of each month.
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of every month, in-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<https://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our ham public service schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Date: February 13, 2024

Main Topic: NC QSO Party

By: Fin Gold, NC4FG

Time: Zoom Meeting at 7:30 PM,
informal gathering at 7PM

Next Month: RARSfest,

By: Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR.

RARS In Person Meeting

Date: February 27, 2024

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: 7:00 PM

On the fourth Tuesday of every month. In-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.



RARSfest April 6, 2024

Latest info —> [RARSfest - The NC Capital Area Hamfest](#)

Experience the Largest All-Indoor Hamfest on the East Coast
and the 2024 [ARRL Roanoke Division](#) Convention!
Brought to you by the [Raleigh Amateur Radio Society](#)

Door Prizes for 2024!

Grand Prize

[Yaesu FTDX10 HF Radio](#)

First Prize

[Yaesu FTM-500DR FM/C4FM](#)

[Dual Band Mobile](#)

“Early Bird” Prize

[ICOM IC-2730A Dual Band Mobile](#)

Volunteer Prize

[Yaesu FT-70DR Dual Band Handheld Radio](#)

PLUS! Hourly drawings for other fabulous prizes! See the [Door Prizes](#) page for details.
Please note that complimentary tickets are not eligible for prize drawings.

Volunteers are needed, [please sign up here](#).

You do not need to be a RARS member to volunteer!
Complimentary admission and a [special prize drawing](#) for volunteers

RARSfest April 6, 2024

General Admission

- \$10 during the “Early Bird” period from January 30 through March 30
- There will be a **special prize drawing** for people who buy their tickets during the “Early Bird” period
- \$12 after March 30
- Admission for attendees age 16 and under will continue to be complimentary when accompanied by a paying adult

Admission will also be complimentary for anyone earning their first amateur radio license at our [license exam session](#). Details at the exam session.

Use the [main entrances](#) to the Jim Graham Building

See [here](#) for details and to order on-line from January 30 through March 30, 2024.

Commercial Area

- For commercial sellers of **new** amateur radio and related equipment, and non-commercial exhibitors
- Located in a prime traffic area at the front of the show floor
- Your choice of attractive 10' x 10' booth space or eight-foot tables in a custom arrangement (space permitting)
- Power outlets available
- Reasonably priced
- Easy setup and take-down—drive to your space!

Use the [load-in \(a/k/a "Flea Market"\) entrance](#) to the Jim Graham Building

See [here](#) for details, pricing, and how to request space in the Commercial Area. The deadline for ordering is March 30, 2024, one week prior to RARSfest.

Flea Market

- For clubs and non-commercial sellers of **used** amateur radio and related equipment
- Eight-foot table with two chairs
- \$23 from January 30 through March 30
- \$27 after March 30
- 120 VAC Power—\$25 per connection. Bring your own extension cords

Prices do **not** include admission. You must [purchase general admission tickets separately](#).

Use the [load-in \(a/k/a "Flea Market"\) entrance](#) to the Jim Graham Building

See [here](#) for details and to order on-line from January 30 through March 30, 2024.

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

Fin Gold
NC4FG
nc4fgfin@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Till
K4RGN
k4rgn@outlook.com

SECRETARY

Julie Royster
KT4JR
919-782-1624
KT4JR@arrl.net

TREASURER

Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Regular dues for licensed amateurs are \$18 per year. (From July 1 through June 30.) Additional licensed immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed full time students and licensed seniors 60 and over are \$12 per year. Unlicensed individuals may become associate members for \$9 per year. Applications for membership are available from the treasurer or on the RARS web site.

<https://www.rars.org>

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

President's Message

I hope you've all had a great start to 2024. RARS has already been busy with two POTA events, monthly meetings, dinners, and an in-person Gathering.

More of those to come and also these:

- NC QSO Party on February 25th
 - Never tried contesting? This is a great way to dip your toe in this fun side of radio.
 - Operate from anywhere at any time from 10 AM to 8 PM.
 - Sign up to come to my place to be part of the RARS club station. We'll be using the club station's Yaesu FTDX10 radios.
 - You can find out more about the contest at the RARS Zoom General Meeting on February 13th.
- License exams at the Gathering on February 27th
 - Last month's Gathering was amazing! There were so many projects to look at and discuss. It really felt like ham ingenuity on display. If you didn't visit, you should.
 - This month will include license exams beforehand. Sign up ahead of time to help the examiners plan.
- Public Service events in March
 - The first event is the Odyssey of the Mind Tournament on March 2nd.
 - Come out and help other organizations communicate.
- RARSfest on April 6th
 - This year will be better than ever!
 - Ticket and table sales are OPEN!
 - Volunteer system is OPEN!
 - Come be a part of something amazing.
 - New perks: Free admission, special prize drawing, and more.

Find out more about any of these and our monthly scheduled events at the [RARS web site](#). For details on any area, find the button on the left to go to a dedicated page.

Finally, did you know that RARS has club-owned loaner radios and antennas?

- 2 Yaesu FTDX10 radios with tuners and power supplies.
- Satellite rig and antenna.
- Multiple portable antennas.

[Contact](#) our POTA leader Brantley West, K4CBW, to get started.

Radio on!

73,

Fin Gold, NC4FG

January 9, 2024 RARS meeting

Fin Gold, NC4FG, RARS President, started the meeting at 7:30. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Various reports were given. See the [minutes](#) for more information about the meeting. Chuck Till, K4RGN introduced the speaker, Dr. Ismail Guvenc from NC State. The topic was AERPAW - the Aerial Experimentation and Research Platform for Advanced Wireless.

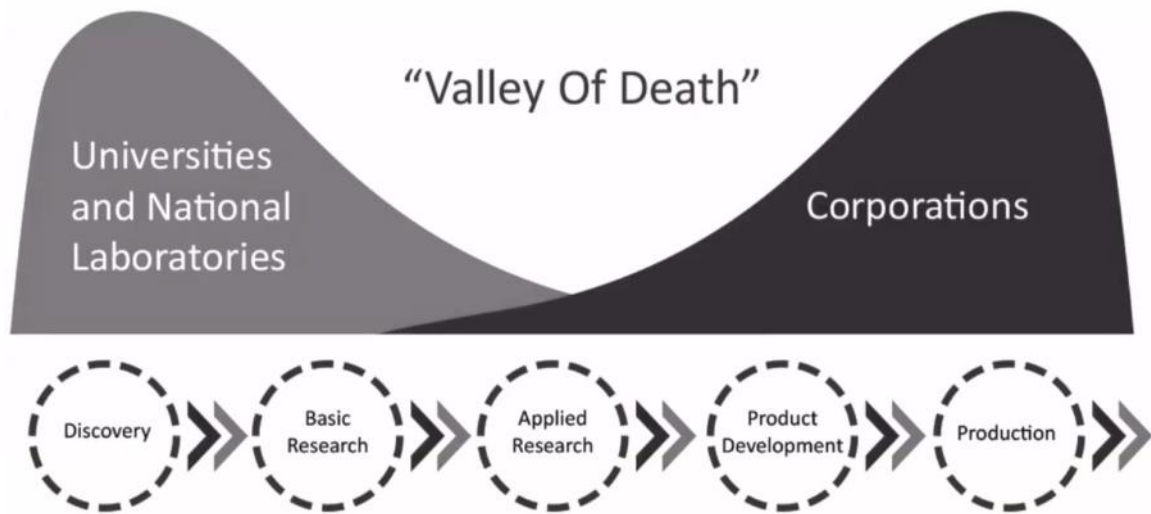
The meeting was adjourned at 8:33PM.



Dr. Ismail Guvenc



January 9, 2024 RARS meeting, continued



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

2

NSF Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research (PAWR)

Funded Apr. 2018



POWDER

Salt Lake City, UT

Software defined networks
and massive MIMO

AVAILABLE TODAY !!

Funded Apr. 2018



COSMOS

West Harlem, NY

Millimeter wave and
backhaul research

AVAILABLE TODAY !!

Funded Sept. 2019



AERPAW

Raleigh, NC

Unmanned aerial vehicles
and mobility

AVAILABLE TODAY !!

Funded June 2021



ARA

Ames, IA

Rural broadband wireless

AVAILABLE TODAY !!



COLOSSEUM

Northeastern University, MA
Large-scale wireless emulation

AVAILABLE TODAY !!

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

3

Screen captures of some of the slide used in the presentation.

January 9, 2024 RARS meeting, continued

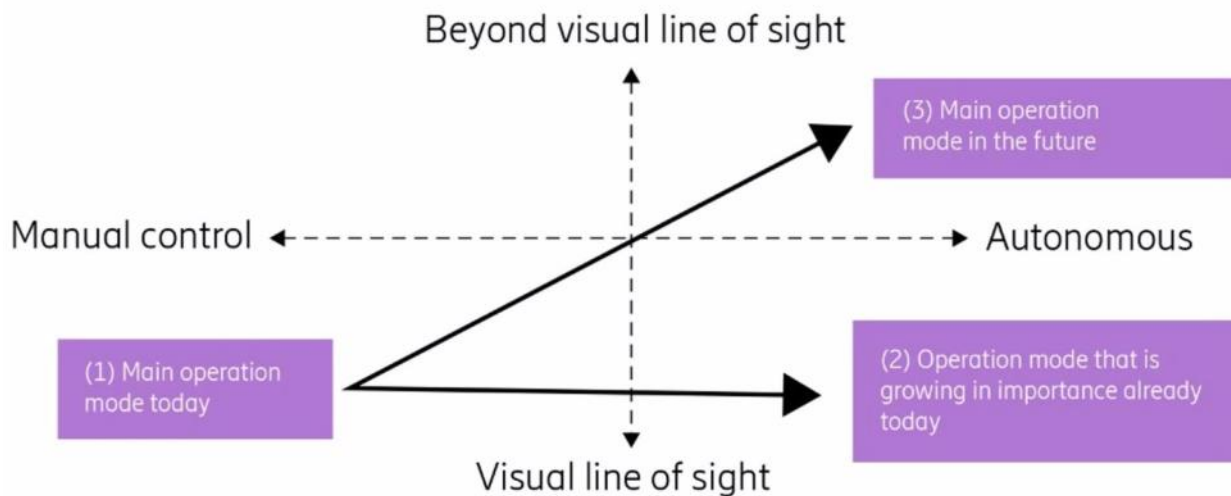
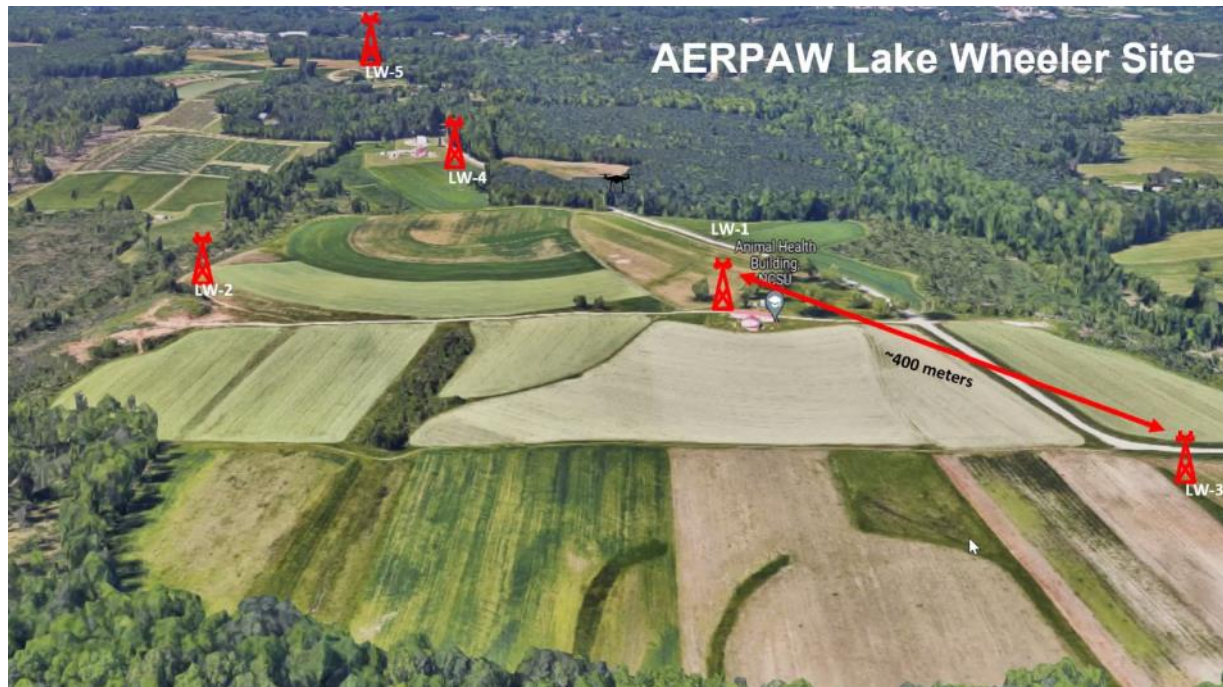


Figure source: Ericsson

Screen captures of some of the slide used in the presentation.

January 9, 2024 RARS meeting, continued



Deployment Map for AERPAW Fixed Nodes

Application Examples

- Advanced Aerial Mobility
- UAV Based Delivery
- UAVs as Wireless Infrastructure (e.g. After Disasters)
- Smart Agriculture
- Building/Bridge Inspections
- Search and Rescue
- Surveillance and Monitoring

Research Examples Enabled

- 4G/5G/Next-G PHY/MAC/NET Experiments
- Coverage Optimization of Cellular 4G/5G for UAVs
- Jammer/Interference Localization
- Spectrum Monitoring, Sharing, and Coexistence
- V2X and Multi-hop Networks, UAV Swarms
- Autonomous UAV Trajectory Optimization
- Millimeter Wave Beamforming and Tracking
- Counter UAV: Radar and Passive RF Sensing

AERPAW Fixed Node Equipment

- NI Software Defined Radios (SDRs) (Every Fixed Node)
- Keysight RF Sensors
- Facebook Terragraph Radios
- LoRa Gateways
- 2x Directional antenna
- 2x SFP
- Fiber
- Ericsson 4G/5G Base Station (Lake Wheeler)

AERPAW Vehicles

- LAM UAV
- SAM UAV
- UGV
- Helikite

AERPAW Portable Node Equipment

- NI Software Defined Radios
- LoRa Sensors
- 4G/5G Mobile Phones
- Compute: Intel NUC10

Project Website: <https://aerpaw.org/> User Manual: <https://sites.google.com/ncsu.edu/aerpaw-wiki>

Screen captures of some of the slide used in the presentation.

January 9, 2024 RARS meeting, continued

 Tom Lewis, N4TL Raleigh (Me)	 Cliff, N3LEX Garner, NC	 K4YXM Robert
 Chuck K4RGN Raleigh (Host)	 dennis wz0q Raleigh	 K4ZVK
 Fin Gold NC4FG Raleigh	 Denny KO4IBL North Raleigh	 KE4MAC - Kelly Mc
 Richard K7RLH Apex	 Dick KD4ISC Cary	 Ken Latchum AD4GX Raleigh
 Larry K4LXV Raleigh	 Doug AD4UL Melbourne, FL	 Mike KO7G
 Philip N4HF Asheville	 Doug N3LTV Raleigh NC	 Mike Salmi KO7G Fuquay
 Al KE4IHX Roxboro	 Ed di Girolamo KQ4HTF Raleigh	 Philip Jenkins
 ALAN AB4OZ RALEIGH	 Ernie N4AEW Youngsville	 Philip N4HF Asheville
 Barry NC4AZ Cary	 Ismail Guvenc	 roger k4klk Raleigh
 Bob K4RLC	 Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX, Raleigh	 Ryan N7RYN NC
 Bob W4TTX, Raleighwood	 Jerry KE4TTS Cary,NC	 Scott N0EDV EM85
 Brantley K4CBW	 Jim KM4WRK, Raleigh	 Tim W4TRB Cary
 Brian - AA4QW	 Joe N4BJH Wake Forest	 Tom KQ4FKQ Cary
 Bruce W8TWT Raleigh	 John Hollowell KQ4NJE SW Raleigh	 Tom Schwartz NC4TS Florida
 Bruce Woodry, Sigma Capital	 John Honeycutt N8ZU Raleigh, NC	 Tony K1OC
 Charles WB4DCM Raleigh	 Julie Royster KT4JR Raleigh	 Chuck, K4HF - Raleigh

48 people attended

Request for Ham Volunteers for the 2024 Wilmington Marathon

Hello RARS members,

Jeff McCulloch (K4JEL) in Wilmington is in need of a few more ham volunteers for the 2024 Wilmington Marathon on February 24, 2024. If you are able to help, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CA9AF2DAAF58-47219772-wilmington>

You can find complete event information at: <https://wilmingtonncmarathon.com/>

I will be there to help and would love to see some familiar call signs in attendance as well!

Thanks.

73,

Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX
RARS Public Service Director
HPSNC Volunteer Coordinator
919-523-9631
K2HJX@att.net



Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering

Ridge Road Baptist Church, at [2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh](#)

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, but we start setting up at 6:00 pm, and you are welcome to bring your own ham radio equipment and projects to demonstrate, show off, or just work on with other like-minded hams -- we have plenty of tables. You might also find sources of coax, connectors, zip cord, Powerpoles®, and whatnot.

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, January 23

Tadd sent this email about the Gathering.

This was a fun gathering. Thanks' for coming and I'll see you all next month!

[Here is a 35 second movie during the gathering.](#) You can see other pictures by clicking on the left and right arrows.

73 Tadd, KA2DEW.

Rechargeable battery research at NASA.

For years now, NASA's Solid-state Architecture Batteries for Enhanced Rechargability and Safety ([SABERS](#)) project has been working on developing a battery with the power and efficiency to power an aircraft. Solid-state batteries are rechargeable batteries that maintain their solid structure even when damaged, eliminating the risk of fire.

NASA's new sulfur selenium prototype battery is not only safer than lithium-ion batteries, but more powerful. As CleanTechnica reports, the prototype has an energy density of 500 watt-hours per kilogram (about 227 watt-hours per pound) — double the energy density of conventional lithium-ion batteries.

Local Rotator Service

An experienced rotator repair service is near us in Mt. Airy. David has many years of experience, and his dad, K4THS, before him. You should know that used rotor you bought, is much easier to repair BEFORE you put it up and find problems. And while you might can do some of the work yourself, why?, when a professional is nearby with experience and parts on hand. A properly serviced rotor will give years of use. David is the one FARC used to service our TailTwister 2.

Call first. David Seivers, W4FLH 240 Pioneer Dr. Mount Airy, NC 27030

336-786-7897

<https://www.rars.org>

Total Solar Eclipse

Raleigh is not in the path of the solar eclipse. Some of you may want to travel to participate.

Please help spread the word to your club about April's upcoming scientific event.

April 8, 2024, will bring a total solar eclipse. This celestial event will be followed widely by hams because of the sudden and dynamic changes that occur in the ionosphere during an eclipse. While much is known about ionospheric propagation, much is still to be learned. And this will be the last solar eclipse in North America for nearly 20 years.

ARRL is partnering with HamSCI – the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation to encourage amateurs to get on the air and operate as part of the **The HamSCI Festivals of Eclipse Ionospheric Science**. Propagation experiments will include the Solar Eclipse QSO Party using CW, FT4/8, SSB and other digital modes and The Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge (GSSC) using CW, WSPR and FST4W modes.

The April 8th event will run from 1400-2400 UTC and amateurs may operate on any band and any mode from 6-160 meters (except the WARC bands.)

All the details may be found at www.hamsci.org/eclipse.

If you have any questions or know of a club that would be interested in having a presentation to learn more about the science around the events, please contact the HamSCI Public Relations Officer, Ed Efchak WX2R at pressrelations@hamsci.org. Ed is also the PIC for the ARRL Northern New Jersey section.

Tell your hams to save the dates...get on the air...and please send in a log. Thanks!!

Ed Efchak WX2R, Public Information Coordinator, American Radio Relay League
Northern New Jersey Section, 802-282-6700

Thanks to Charles Good for submitting this



Teenage hams on NBC's TODAY Show

Hello, PIC and PIO community!

We have a fantastic PR win for amateur radio to start off 2024! Harry Smith with NBC's TODAY Show did a six-and-a-half minute segment on a group of high school students who had a contact with astronauts via Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS). What makes this ARISS contact so neat is that it was entirely student-led. The program at the school came to be after the faculty advisor graduated from the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology.

Read our ARRL News coverage of that story here:

<https://www.arrl.org/news/student-led-ariss-contact-a-success>

Here's the TODAY Show link:

<https://www.today.com/video/high-school-students-use-ham-radio-skills-to-contact-space-station-201408581756>

The average audience of their live broadcast was 2,576,000 last November. Millions more should see the clip as local NBC affiliates download the clip for use in their local newscast. Hundreds of thousands of others will see it on social media. This is probably the biggest earned media coverage of ham radio in years.

The ARISS activation had support from several departments at ARRL.

This may be a good way for you to get a reporter, especially at an NBC affiliate, to localize the story.

Happy New Year!

73,

Sierra Harrop, W5DX

Public Relations and Outreach Manager

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®

225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1400 USA

Thanks to Charles Good for submitting this

<https://www.rars.org>

RARS License Class Instructors and Students Needed

RARS is planning to hold Ham Radio Technician Training Classes on March 16, 23, and 30, 2024. The classes will be held from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM on each day. We need more instructors and students. These classes will prepare new HAMs to take the test for their first license. Classes will run from 8:30 am to 12:35 pm at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh. We still need three to four instructors to present the HAM Radio License material to classes of 10-15 students. There are nine chapters in the ARRL HAM Radio License Manual *ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 5th Edition*. Each instructor will present the material for a 1-1.5-hour class per chapter. Three chapters will be covered per class day. The instructors will present the training slides prepared by ARRL while adding their experience and answering questions. Experienced HAMS will add helpful information for students that will assist them to pass the test and become better HAM Radio operators. Please contact Denny KO4IBL at the information below.

If you know of someone who wants to join the Hobby, RARS is pleased to announce that we will be offering this Technician licensing class in March 2024! The class will be taught on three Saturday mornings, **starting on March 16th** and leading up to the [testing session at RARSfest](#) on April 6. 7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, and cover all the material you need to know to pass the exam for the entry-level amateur radio license. Instruction will be based on the *ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 5th Edition*, available from the [American Radio Relay League](#) (you don't need to be a member to buy from the ARRL) and on Amazon.

For more information or to reserve a seat in the class, please contact Denny Oestreich, the RARS Education Director, at telephone number 919-846-8163, or OestreichD@AOL.com. And tell those friends whom you have been trying to get to join the hobby!"

Denny Oestreich KO4IBL, Tel: 919-846-8163, Email: OestreichD@AOL.com

FCC Rules Question

Does the Commission have your correct email address?

This one of the Technician class questions used during an exam.

Question, What may happen if the FCC is unable to reach you by email?

Answer, Revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license.

RARS Member Birthdays

Mike	N4IQA	02/01
Sue	W2GHK	02/02
Selene	KG4RMT	02/03
LOS	AF0AA	02/03
David	K4DBZ	02/04
Grady	KJ4RZU	02/05
Artie	KC2JFU	02/05
Kevin	K0KRK	02/07
Larry	N4LEW	02/07
Bryan	KJ4GWZ	02/08
Cliff	KA7NSU	02/10
Tom	N4TL	02/13
Dennis	WZ0Q	02/13
Tony	K1OC	02/14
Kathy	N4KLW	02/15
Roy	KT4EM	02/15
Dave	KK4ELT	02/16
Jim	W2PAU	02/16
Wallace	KO4SKA	02/17
Howard	N4KYW	02/19
Joe	N1LVN	02/21
Nadia	KO4ADV	02/21
Israel	N4ZVU	02/21
Al	N4VF	02/22
Pedro	KN4MJR	02/23
Pam	KO4YAR	02/23
Sylvia	KG6ZUY	02/24
Joe	W4TTO	02/25
Bob	WX4MMM	02/26
Carl	W8WZ	02/26
Kevin	KQ4LME	02/27
Bruce	W8TWT	02/27
Kathleen	KM4CSF	02/28
Mary	KG4OQA	02/28

RARS New Members

Greg Isley	Not Licensed
Ed Edwards	WE3ED
John Shea	WEKHG
John Hollowell	K4JAH
John Wills	KQ4FSP
Richard Spargur	K3UI

January 2024 RARS Net Report

31 2m nets: 397 checkins, 752 minutes

4 6m nets: 45 checkins, 65 minutes

Julie Royster, KT4JR



HAM RADIO LUNCHEON

Everyone is welcome!

Every Thursday at 11:15 AM, New York Diner,
909 McKnight Drive Knightdale.

<https://www.facebook.com/NewYorkDinerNC>

Check the latest information on the AB4OZ QRZ entry. [QRZ.COM](https://www.qrz.com).

RARS Monthly Supper, IHOP Restaurant

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the IHOP Restaurant, 7471 Six Forks Road, Raleigh. The restaurant is on the corner of Sawmill and Six Forks Roads. After entering the restaurant look for our folks in the dining room. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew.

73, Chuck, K4HF

2024 Antique Radio Charlotte

March 21,22.& 23, 2024!

**Our phonograph friends will be joining us again
[for this conference!](#)**

Free AB4OZ Hamfest, Weather permitting

March 2, 2024.

The free AB4OZ Hamfest will be Saturday, March 2, 2024. Setup at 9AM. Start time is 10AM. New location, Golden Corral Restaurant rear parking lot. 3551 Grenelle street, Raleigh NC 27603. Check the latest information here [QRZ.COM](https://www.qrz.com).

<https://www.rars.org>

RARS MONTHLY SUPPER, IHOP RESTAURANT FEBRUARY 6, 2024

Names clockwise around the table

Jan Lewis, N4TL XYL

Bruce Woodry, W8TWT

Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX

Ken Latchum, AD4GX

Richard Della Fave, KC4AQC

Jonathan Osbrink, KB8QNE

Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL

Chuck Littlewood, K4HF

Greg Isley



Names clockwise around the table

Waiyi Choi

Jonathan Osbrink, KB8QNE

Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL

Chuck Littlewood, K4HF

Greg Isley

Chuck Till, K4RGN

Dennis Mason, WZ0Q

Fin Gold, NC4FG

Tom Lewis, N4TL

Jan Lewis, N4TL XYL

Bruce Woodry, W8TWT

Bob Starkenburg W4TTX

ARRL Roanoke Division information

To all ARRL Roanoke Division members:

I am pleased to report that immediately after the ARRL January Board Meeting, the ARRL released a member bulletin that highlighted actions taken at that meeting:

<http://www.arrl.org/member-bulletin?issue=2024-01-21>

This bulletin gives a good summary of actions taken, pending release of the board minutes.

I also give thanks to our colleagues in the New England Division, Director Kemmerer AB1OC and Vice Director Temples K9HI along with newly elected First Vice President Kristen McIntyre K6WX in sharing the link to their most recent Town Hall meeting. For those interested further in board actions, this gives a more detailed picture:

<https://nediv.arrl.org/2024/01/26/town-hall-recap-january-25-2024/>

Please join us at our next Roanoke Division Town Hall on March 28th at 8 pm local time where we will discuss planned implementations of these actions and any current information at that time.

Finally, I am pleased to share our quarterly Roanoke Division Newsletter:

<https://www.arrl-roanoke.com/Roanoke%20Newsletter%20Jan%202024.pdf>

Thanks to all for being an ARRL Member!

'73 de

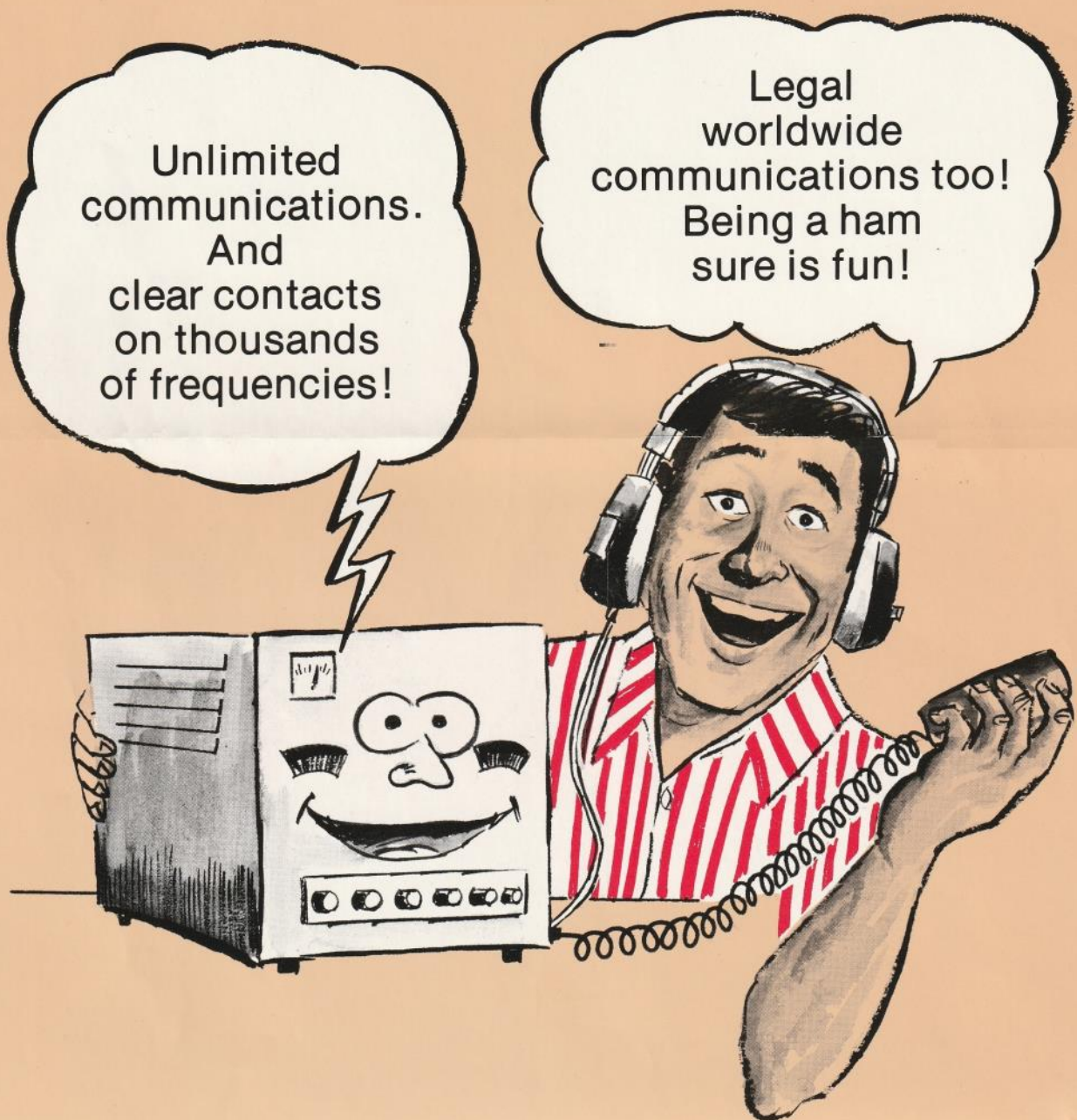
Jim Boehner N2ZZ, Roanoke Division Director
Bill Morine N2COP, Roanoke Division Vice Director

ARRL Roanoke Division
Director: James F Boehner, N2ZZ
n2zz@arrl.org

AMATEUR RADIO

Unlimited
communications.
And
clear contacts
on thousands
of frequencies!

Legal
worldwide
communications too!
Being a ham
sure is fun!



Portable Operating Group: POTA @ Falls Lake by Brantley West K4CBW



Jeff Highsmith, WJ3FF operating CW QRP on 17m. TR-35 rig and a vertical.



Bill Berzinskas, KY4ZC's
portable HF station
Yesu 991A Transceiver

The RARS Portable Operating Group gathered at the Falls Lake State Recreational Area Beaverdam Access from 1-3pm on January 20 to participate in the Parks on the Air (POTA) Support Your Parks (SYP) event weekend. Over a dozen hams dropped by over the course of the afternoon to operate, face-to-face QSO, and eat cobbler. It was an impressive turnout since the day's high temperature was 34F.

The club's FTDx10 station was used as a Get on the Air (GOTA) station and operated on 20m. The bands were lively with many other stations also participating in the POTA SYP event.



Dan Berzinskas, KQ4GOB
operating sideband

Portable Operating Group: POTA @ Falls Lake



Dutch oven peach cobbler



WJ3FF's multiband vertical

OPTIS KY4ZOB				Beaver L
1340L	VE3DI	59	59	DOUG, O
1342L	KE KI2D	59	59	PARK K2
K4CTSW				
00	RC8IQ	59	59	MI
01	KAZNVF	59	59	PA
01	W0XBX	59	59	MN
02	KEZBXZ	59	59	NV
02	A4SEY	59	59	TX
03	VE3VTH	59		
04	WE1D	59	59	CT
04	KE2AUS	59	59	NY
05	W1ARR	59	59	?
06	KD9MAK	59	48	IN
07	W1R3B	59		
07	N2TO	59	59	MS

GOTA station log

Hams bringing stations included Bill KY4ZC, his son Daniel KQ4GOB, and Jeff WJ3FF. Bill operated 10m SSB. Bill and Daniel operated their Yeasu 991A station on 10m SSB 10m and netted a QSO with Canadian ham in the Northwest Territories. Jeff operated QRP CW on 17m with his freshly-built Penntek TR-35 rig and a vertical.

RARS Members on the Road

Carl W8WZ & John KG4AKV

During the Christmas holiday John Brier KG4AKV came to visit me in New Orleans and during our visit we spent a good amount of time enjoying ham radio through the Parks On The Air (POTA) program.

I live near the Chalmette Battlefield which is part of the Jean Lafite National Historical Park which is Park K-0040 in the POTA program. If you remember the 1959 Johnny Horton song "In 1814 We Took a Little Trip" you will know that this park was their destination. On January 18, 1815 the British Army was dramatically defeated by American forces on this battlefield just outside of New Orleans, LA effectively ending the War of 1812. Today the battlefield is a National Park and is a very interesting place to tour. It contains a Civil War cemetery as well as a house that was present on the site during the 1815 battle and a visitor's center. It is accessible by Paddle Wheel River Boat down the Mississippi River from New Orleans once a day, or by automobile. John and I transited via car. We set up on a service road between the battlefield and the river and looked out onto the battlefield during our activation. Our HF setup included a TN07 pushup vertical antenna that was supported by a drive over car mount and used with great effect on 20 meters by a Yaesu FTDX10 at 75 Watts. John also made contacts over satellite using an Icom IC-9700 and an Alaskan Arrow antenna. Both stations used bioenno lithium ion batter-



Carl Davis, W8WZ

RARS Members on the Road, continued

ies as power sources. During this activation we made a total of 21 satellite contacts and 49 SSB contacts on HF for a total of 70 QSOs. The activation went very well with the exception of the heavy amount of mosquito bites sustained. While we were operating a car pulled up and a young man got out to talk with us. He was a brand new ham from Massachusetts who was in town on vacation with his family and touring the battlefield. When he saw our HF vertical in the distance he insisted that his parents drove him to see us knowing that we had to be hams. His parents stayed in the car and peered out skeptically at us with our radio gear as he came over to say hello. His name is Ethan and his call is KC1ROF. Ethan got his ticket thanks to a ham radio club at his high school and is involved in public service work back in the Bay State. We had the opportunity to show him how HF contacts are made, how satellites work and introduce him to the POTA program. That was an extra special surprise for us. When we got home that evening, we sent KC1ROF a QSL card for the "eyeball QSO".

The next day we left home at 8 AM and drove 3 hours South to Grand Isle, LA. Grand Isle is narrow barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico. It is the only inhabitable barrier Island in Louisiana and while very small, does contain a State Park making it POTA eligible as Park K-2363. The drive down from New Orleans goes through rural South Louisiana and takes one through some small Cajun towns as well as through sugar fields, past fishing boats and petrochemical plants. The Island is accessible via bridge and has only recently opened after sustaining dramatic damage from Hurricane Ida. In fact, only part of the state park is now accessible. But it was enough to get the Island on the Air. In fact, every QSO we provided not only counted in the POTA program but also in the Islands On The Air (IOTA) program as well. Grand Isle State Park has a small area for RV camping. Next to each camper



Gulf of Mexico

RARS Members on the Road, continued

parking slab is a picnic table. We took advantage of this and set up our HF station and our satellite station there. We were on the air by noon which was our goal. This park had never been activated using CW before and had a very low number of overall activations so it was in high demand to POTA park hunters. Happily, our very first QSO was with fellow RARS member Brantley, K4CBW on 20 meter CW. A large pileup soon ensued and before we stopped for lunch we had 103 CW QSOs in the log from Grand Isle. While Carl was working CW, John was busy on the satellites. He made 30 QSOs during this time. By then it was time to take a break from operating and find lunch. There are a

couple small restaurants on the island and we had shrimp po boys and gumbo at one of them before returning back to the park for some more radio work until we had to head home. This time, we set up the station in the car itself. This turned out to be far more comfortable because the car kept out all bugs and wind. Plus the seats were more comfortable than the wooden picnic table bench. John sat in the backseat of the Subaru Crosstrek with the FTDX10 on the seat next to him and Carl sat in the front passenger seat with the computer on his lap to log. During this time we made 43 SSB QSOs on 20 meters. Happily working fellow RARS members 10 year old, General Class Daniel KQ4GOB and his dad Bill KY4ZC before realizing we needed to head home if we were to arrive before our bedtimes. While driving home we got to see a beautiful sunset over the gulf followed by a beautiful orange colored moon over the swamps followed by the bright lights of New Orleans. It was a beautiful day in every regard.

The next day we returned to the Chalmette Battlefield for one more activation, this time only using satellites and 23 additional QSOs were



John Brier, KG4AKV

RARS Members on the Road, continued

added to the logbook.

Overall, we made 113 phone contacts, 103 CW contacts, and 53 satellite contacts while activating 2 different parks, one of them twice. We made contacts all over the United States as well as working several DX stations. Most importantly, much fun was had by all.



Carl Davis, W8WZ



John Brier, KG4AKV



Deepest Sympathies

Silent Keys

Joe Ragland, W4BZL of Raleigh on January 17, 2024.

Our sympathies are with his family and friends.

[Joe Ragland Obituary \(1938 - 2024\) - Raleigh, NC - The News & Observer \(legacy.com\)](#)

Peter Eggimann, KJ4MDY of Wendell on January 18, 2024. Peter was the Founder of Electronic Products Design, Inc of Wendell.

Our sympathies are with his family and friends.

[Peter Eggimann – Strickland Funeral Home](#)

The Shadow

I found this postcard in a thrift store. It advertised a Bantam Book about the Shadow. The radio show "The Shadow" was one of the most popular radio shows in history. The Shadow went on the air in August of 1930 and ran until 1954. "Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men? The Shadow knows!" The opening lines of the "Detective Story" program captivated listeners and are instantly recognizable even today.

Some episodes are available here.

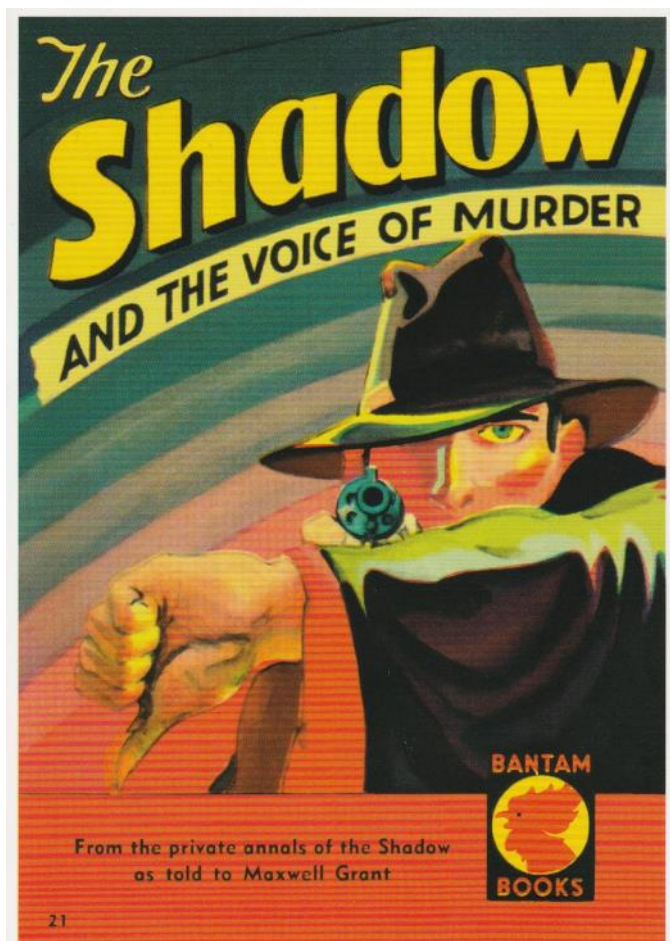
https://www.olderadioworld.com/shows/The_Shadow.php

Other old radio shows are also at that website.

More information is available at Wikipedia.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Shadow

73 Tom N4TL



RARS Classifieds

Copied from <https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php>

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.

Check the RARS Classified List on the RARS website regularly for new items.

FS: Hallicrafters HT-37, SX-101

Posted February 3rd, 2024 by: N4TL

Contact: n4tl2@yahoo.com

Hallicrafters for sale

Hallicrafters HT-37 Transmitter (has SSB), puts out 100 watts CW on 80 meters. All voltages look good, all tubes test good. Clean no rust. It was built with ceramic capacitors. There are only about 6 paper capacitors. Could use an alignment. SSB works but the carrier null needs alignment. all original very clean no rust. \$85

Hallicrafters SX-101 Mark1, Receiver, has 160 meters & SSB. Contact cleaner was put on the band switch and now it receives stations. clean no rust. \$85

contact N4TL

Misc Ham Radio Gear

Posted February 3rd, 2024 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf953@yahoo.com

1. 2 West Mountain Radio Rigblaster Plus/Advantage Sound Card Interface w/acc ea. - \$20
2. Heathkit Cantenna Dummy Load, 1 kw - \$20
3. Black & Decker 9.6vdc hand drill - \$10
4. Bk Tool Kit 2703B DVM - \$15
5. New (2) and used (2) 6146B transmitting tubes in boxes, ea. - \$15/10
6. ICOM HM-46 and HM-? H/T Speaker/mikes, ea. - \$10

Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 630-9358 Thanks, Chuck

RARS Classifieds continued

Drake T-4XC Transmitter , R-4C Receiver, MS-4 Spkr/Pwr Supply

Posted February 3rd, 2024 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf953@yahoo.com

Drake Twins - a 160 to 10 Meter 100 Watt Station with a RFE Digital Display, 3 optional filters an Astatic D-104 Base Mike. Tested, clean - \$545

Contact me by e mail, preferred - Thanks, Chuck

Clean ICOM IC-706MkIIG Tcwr and MFJ 949E Antenna Tuner

Posted February 3rd, 2024 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf953@yahoo.com

1. ICOM IC-706MkIIG 160 through 440 MHz HF/VHF/UHF 100 Watt Transceiver, hand mike, manual and pp conn. Needs longer power cable. Tested, excellent - \$525

2. MFJ 949E 160 through 10 Meters 300 Watt antenna tuner. Dual needle meter. Switching for multiple type antennas; internal Dummy Load. With manual. Tested - excellent - \$115

Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 630-9358 Thanks, Chuck

Radioddity Dualband HT

Posted January 31st, 2024 by: WZ0Q

Contact: wz0q@outlook.com

I have a Radioddity GC-5 dualband HT.

Radio is 2 months old.comes with original box, manual And Earbud speaker mic. And charger.

In like new condition.

Asking \$25.00.

919-413-5998 or email me.

Dennis Wz0q

RARS Classifieds continued

Hallicrafters SR-500 Tornado Transceiver

Posted January 23rd, 2024 by: K7RLH

Contact: voodoo101der71@gmail.com

Asking \$300 OBO for this restored 80/40/20-meter HF transceiver with separate power supply. All tubes were tested, sourced and replaced, some with NOS, with tubes that I purchased off the Internet. Tom Lewis replaced all paper capacitors in both unit and power supply. This rig tunes slightly off frequency (about 10 kc) but receives well and puts out 200 watts on SSB and CW (originally a 300-watt) unit; manual furnished along with an Astatic D-104 microphone and a muffin fan over the finals. New cord on power supply. I accept PayPal, Venmo, cash, check or money order for local sales only or within 50 miles of Raleigh area. Text me on 830-515-9762 if you have questions or want to see photos.

Thanks for looking.

Davis Instruments complete weather station

Posted January 19th, 2024 by: N2XZF

Contact: n2xzf.radio@gmail.com

Vantage Vue Sensor Suite #6357

This is the outdoor portion of the station, it contains all the sensors, and mounts on a pipe, (included).

Lists at \$300

Vantage Vue Console/Receiver #6351

This is the inside portion of the station, it has the display.

it is missing the rear foot/prop for use on a desk, (just mount it on the wall).

Lists at \$225

USB Data Logger

This unit mounts inside the console, and provides logging info to your computer.

No Software.

Lists at \$ 225 with software

Can be viewed at my QTH., ALL for 350.00

RARS Classifieds continued

FS: Kenwood TS-520S

Posted January 17th, 2024 by: W4BOH

Contact: infomet@embarqmail.com

Nice rig, works, \$250.

In Hillsborough.

Wilson

Greenlee Clamp on handheld meter

Posted January 15th, 2024 by: KA2FWC

Contact: ka2fwc@bellsouth.net

A Greenlee CM-600 600A AC, 200A AC, Ohms / continuity, AC and DC volts

Handheld unit in new condition, in zipper case with test leads and paperwork

\$50 OBO

Frank, KA2FWC

AC/DC Current clamp on

Posted January 15th, 2024 by: KA2FWC

Contact: ka2fwc@bellsouth.net

A "Westward 32" AC/DC Current transducer (clamp on)

100A - 10mV/A 600A - 1mV/A Plugs into DVM to read current

\$50 (OBO) in good condition with soft zipper case

Frank, KA2FWC

TenTec Model 247 tuner

Posted January 15th, 2024 by: KA2FWC

Contact: ka2fwc@bellsouth.net

For sale TenTec 247 HF antenna tuner in good shape untested

\$50

Frank, KA2FWC

RARS Classifieds continued

Kenwood AT-120 Antenna Tuner

Posted January 15th, 2024 by: KA2FWC

Contact: ka2fwc@bellsouth.net

For sale Kenwood AT-120 antenna Tuner

Very good condition needs power cord . It is the same cord my TS-670 uses.

Asking \$100

Frank

KA2FWC

adjustable power supply

Posted January 15th, 2024 by: KA2FWC

Contact: ka2fwc@bellsouth.net

1.5 to 15v 2 amp adjustable power supply analog meter and adjustment pot. Input voltage 90 to 253VAC.

In good condition

\$15

Frank

KA2FWC

Drake WV-4 Watt meter (Reduced)

Posted January 15th, 2024 by: KA2FWC

Contact: ka2fwc@bellsouth.net

I have a Drake WV-4 VHF Wattmeter Freq is 20 to 200 MHz. It is 100 and 1000W fwd and rev. It uses a Nanograph to calculate SWR (I have copy of manual and Nanograph)

Working in very good condition

\$100 OBO

Frank

KA2FWC

RARS Classifieds continued

6 Meter Beam

Posted January 10th, 2024 by: KB4BR

Contact: ham306@bellsouth.net

6 Meter beam, homebrew, heavy duty, wide spaced, 4 elements, gamma match. Boom is 12 feet x 2-inch OD, 1/8 " wall. Elements are 3/4" OD with 1/8" wall. Disassembled, has been in storage for 15+ years.

\$225, no checks. UPU,

Hamilton Hicks/ KB4BR,

Wilmington

BRAND NEW Interstate 12V 8AH Batteries

Posted January 10th, 2024 by: N1GMV

Contact: n1gmv@hotmail.com

I have two brand new (1/10/24) Interstate 12V 8AH T1 batteries for sale

\$20 each, Never used,

919-819-5837

SDRplay

Posted February 3rd, 2024 by: WA4OSS

Contact: wa4oss@nc.rr.com

SDRplay RSP1 1KHZ - 2GHZ sdr. Excellent condition - 100% as new. \$35.00

RARS Club Meeting Minutes

7:30 PM, January 9, 2024

President Fin Gold, NC4FG, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and welcomed all attendees. He mentioned tips for the Zoom platform and asked participants to list their call sign and location following their name on Zoom.

President Gold led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

President Gold expressed appreciation to the previous board members, especially John Honeycutt N8ZU, for their leadership during the pandemic when they prioritized all our health over everything else. During his tenure as RARS president, Gold plans to focus on member services and engagement, and new ways to get people involved, including seeking new members and helping new hams get going in amateur radio.

President Gold asked for any new members present to identify themselves but there were none. He asked for visitors present to make themselves known, and there were the following: our speaker Dr. Ismail Guvenc, Kelly McCullough KE4MAC, Scott Littfin N0EDV, John Hollowell KQ4NJE, and Brian Fields AA4QW. No newly upgraded members were present.

President Gold asked Secretary Julie Royster, K4JTR, for a quorum call. She stated that there were not 44 members present, so a quorum was not achieved. President Gold stated that in the absence of a quorum, approval of the December 2023 meeting minutes would be delayed until February.

Announcements

Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ, announced these future hamfests: March 2 free AB4OZ fest in Raleigh, March 8-9 Charlotte hamfest, April 6 RARSfest, April 13 Winston-Salem hamfest.

Richard Hall, K7RLH, reported that at the test session at the December RARS gathering 6 people successfully passed their exams. The next test session will occur in February. Richard needs more RARSfest promotion cards to distribute at test sessions.

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RARS General Membership Meeting minutes continued

Brantley West, K4CBW, announced that on January 20 the RARS portable operations group will go to Beaver Dam Recreation Area up highway 50 from 1-3 pm at a shelter. See details in an email coming soon. This will be a POTA weekend so there are likely to be many stations seeking to contact the RARS portable station.

Denny Oestreich, KO4IBL, RARS education director, announced plans to schedule RARS technician license training sessions in February and March using ARRL materials. There will be 3 Saturdays of class plus a 4th Saturday test session. Volunteers are needed as instructors following the ARRL powerpoint materials, and everyone is urged to recruit students. Contact Denny by email or phone him at 919-846-8163.

President Fin Gold announced that during the NC QSO Party on February 25 there will be a RARS club station operating at his home from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. This station will be a bonus station, which means that many other stations will be trying to contact the RARS club station. President Gold invited anyone interested in operating the club station during the event to come and join in.

President Fin Gold announced that the next RARS Board meeting will be held at 7:00 PM Tuesday, Jan 16 on Zoom. Any member who wants to attend the board meeting can obtain the zoom link from Fin.

There being no other announcements or reports from Directors or Members, President Gold called on Vice-President Chuck Till to introduce the speaker for tonight's program. At 7:45pm VP Till introduced Dr. Ismail Guvenc, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at NC State University, whose presentation was entitled "The Aerial Experimentation and Research Platform for Advanced Wireless (AERPAAW) at NC State." At the conclusion of the presentation there was a question and answer period. Vice-President Till thanked Dr. Guvenc for his interesting technical presentation.

Following the program President Gold adjourned the meeting at 8:33 PM.

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

November 21, 2023
7:00 PM on Zoom

President John Honeycutt N8ZU called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. He recognized the following visitors: Fin Gold NC4FG, Denny Oestreich KO4IBL.

John Honeycutt requested a quorum call and determined that a quorum was achieved. Attendees: John Honeycutt N8ZU, Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Julie Royster KT4JR, Brantley West K4CBW, Marty Young W4MY, Carl Davis W8WZ, Fin Gold NC4FG, Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX, Chuck DeCourt W3WZN, Nancy Torborg KB2TNR, Richard Kroeger N1FUA, Denny Oestreich KO4IBL, Tadd Torborg KA2DEW, Ken Latchum AD4GX.

John Honeycutt asked for approval of the minutes from the October Board Meeting. Only draft minutes had been sent to board members due to oversight by acting secretary Julie Royster. John determined that the minutes could be approved as long as it was confirmed that the changes suggested regarding the draft minutes would be made in a final copy. Julie assured the board that the corrected minutes would be sent within a few days. Alan Pitegoff moved that the October BOD minutes be approved, and the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

ARISS Opportunity at Centennial Middle School

John Honeycutt asked Brantley West whether there is any update on this project. Brantley says no further interest has been expressed by the school but we are ready if they request more from us.

NEW BUSINESS

RARS Club Station for NC QSO Party

Marty Young asks via John Honeycutt whether RARS will have a club station competing in the multi-op category in the QSO party as Joe White previously did at his home in the past. John Honeycutt asked for in-

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

put. Alan Pitegoff said that we could ask about this on the listserv, but John Honeycutt said there was no need to do that. Greg Seamster asked whether the stations from the ARRL grant would be sufficient for this purpose. Brantley West opined that the ARRL grant stations would be suitable for this purpose if someone wants to try it, but that last year most portable op people preferred to operate competitively from their home stations rather than operating as a portable station. Brantley is willing to show anyone interested how to operate the portable stations if desired. Carl Davis said that finding a spot is the big challenge, but a compromise might be to delegate a board member to be the club station from home and invite friends to participate. This would get the club station W4DW into the QSO party log. Fin Gold asked: how many people would show up, and how many operating hours would there be? Carl Davis said the host could set the hours, which need not be all the hours of the party. Guests would not be necessary but more than one person would be desirable, and we should check on the rules. Fin Gold will consider organizing a club station. Brantley West volunteered the portable op station equipment if Fin wants to use it. So tentatively Fin may be volunteering.

Inappropriate content on RARS facebook page:

John Honeycutt asked Fin Gold to discuss recent inappropriate posts. In October Fin saw 11 posts by 1 party; then in November someone else posted an image that was inappropriate. Jeremy Lindsley is the administrator on the official club Facebook page and he did not see this, so these posts must have been on a page other than the official RARS page. Fin will forward Jeremy details about where these posts occurred. Fin suggests moderating posts to the group. Only Jeremy and Carl can post to the official RARS page. Tadd Torborg described how automatic Facebook monitoring warns about inappropriate content such as pornography. John Honeycutt suggested getting control of the Facebook group from Israel Pattison. Nancy Torborg was to have contacted Israel about this. Julie Royster suggested removing the RARS name from the offending group's page. Jeremy Lindsley favors capturing and killing the unofficial group. Jeremy uses the official page to make occasional announcements. Carl Davis says he thinks Tara created the unofficial group when she was RARS public information officer. John Honeycutt concludes that the BOD needs to get control of the group. Further discussion was deferred until Nancy Torborg joined the meeting.

IRS rules about prizes over \$600 in value:

Alan Pitegoff stated that for prizes of \$600 or more at RARSfest the club might have to provide a 1099 statement of prize value to the recipient and to the IRS. Greg Seamster is not sure whether this is required of nonprofit organizations, so he needs to find this out. Greg will report back at the next board

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

meeting. In the past RARS did not give prizes of \$600 or more in value. Greg will determine what is required.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Vice-president Chuck Till was ill and unable to attend.

Treasurer Greg Seamster sent a report out by email stating that 92 members have not renewed their dues, taxes due have been filed, small expenses have been incurred for locks at repeater sites, and there are no QSO party expenses yet. John Honeycutt asked regarding a recently received gift toward public service which section of the budget it should be added to, but this discussion was deferred to the public service part of the meeting.

Secretary Julie Royster (Acting secretary) reported that minutes are being documented in a timely manner and asked for continuing suggestions and corrections. Jeremy Lindsley expressed a need for a repository of minutes in the Board section of the website to make them easier to find instead of searching Exciter issues for the minutes. John Honeycutt suggested Google docs. Greg Seamster has collected pdf files of minutes out of the Exciter issues and has been able to search the pdf files for key words. John Honeycutt favors a repository. Greg stated that Mark Kilmer has custody of a club laptop that was used for minutes, and that we should get this laptop back. John Honeycutt asked Julie Royster to contact Mark Kilmer about this laptop after Thanksgiving.

Greg says Tom has a need for some computer software and there was a question as to whether any software purchased should go onto Tom's personal computer or onto the club computer. John Honeycutt stated it is OK for the software Tom needs to be installed on his personal computer.

Committee Reports:

Public Service:

Jeremy Lindsley reported that RARS received a \$1000 donation from the NC Bicycle Club, which is one of the organizations supported by HPSNC. So how should that money be used? Jeremy has no firm plans but taking care of HPSNC website expense is a priority. Also we need a new tarp and a pair of FRS radios for use at public service events. We also need a portable power source. Do we need a separate

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

HPSNC line item in the budget? Jeremy has been using his own money for various expenses, amounting to about \$200 in the last few years. John Honeycutt and Greg Seamster agreed that the current budget line item can be used to reimburse Jeremy this year and maybe create a new line item separate for HPSNC for next year. Also back in October Jeremy spoke with Bill Morine N2COP of the Roanoke Division who brought up the possibility of using the HPSNC website as a clearinghouse for all statewide public service information. Jeremy will look into this and report back to the board.

FM Repeater Chair

Greg Seamster reported on behalf of Chuck DeCourt that he has ordered locks for repeater sites. Alan Pitegoff is planning a visit to repeater sites soon with Fin and Greg. Alan described that the sites have several locks in series. Interfering intermodulation is a temperature related problem. Alan will check a monitor at the repeater site that is supposed to identify outages that we have not noticed. Danny Hampton is supposed to install a monitor that will notify us when there is a UPS outage. Danny will install a new DMR antenna on the tower. Programming DStar has been difficult. The old DMR at Capital repeater center will be retained as a backup. When the antenna has a bad connection it does pick up more trash causing intermod. We do not use a tone on our repeater because many of our member use old radios, but a tone will not prevent intermod anyway. Greg Seamster added that there has been a problem with outages on the Spectrum internet service, for which he may request a refund. At the Bayleaf facility the electrical cables are not buried. Tadd Torborg asked for the 440 repeater power to be checked, as it seems to have changed.

Club license trustees

Carl Davis had nothing new to report.

RARSfest Chair

Nancy Torborg reported that the committee will meet next week and every other week thereafter until RARSfest. She is now going through the website that Tony has revised. At JARSfest there was interest in RARSfest. Regarding the question about facebook issue, Nancy has not been in recent contact with Israel and has not been able to get his current contact info. Nancy will try again to contact Israel. John Honeycutt told Nancy we are wondering why the RARS name is associated with this group. Nancy agrees there is no reason to have more than one page/group. Tara told Nancy that John Stone originated this facebook group years ago. John Bowman N4JMB has agreed to do social media ads for 2023 RARSfest. Greg informed Nancy about the issue of prizes over \$600 possibly requiring 1099s. Alan Pitegoff has

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

agreed to provide a test bench at RARSfest so that people can measure voltage of items they are considering to purchase.

Food Service

Richard Kroeger reported that there will be food at the gathering next week.

Net Manager

Julie Royster reported that the 2m and 6m nets are going fine. She intends to name Joe Owen K4HEW as an official substitute net control station.

Youth Chairman:

Brantley West described a new antenna loan program. Carl Davis donated several HF antennae to RARS. Brantley has bought storage containers for these. The idea is to check out one of the ARRL stations and also check out an antenna to go with it. John suggested to publicize this. What line item should Brantley's reimbursement come out of for the purchase of these containers? Greg asks about the ARRL grant – do we need to report expenditures from grant? Carl says we are current with reporting after completing a questionnaire that ARRL sent to us, but we DO need to finish spending the grant funds in 2023. The only grant item left to do is to publicize to all hams in Wake County that they can participate in activities using the grant radios and other RARS activities. Carl says we could do this by mailing a postcard to all Wake County hams. The postcard will include a QR code to take people to a webpage that lists upcoming activities especially portable operating and RARS gathering activities. Due to difficulty in completing this in 2023, it was agreed to roll this over to next year and make it lead up to Field Day. There is \$3000 left in the budget and this will cover the mailing.

Education:

Incoming education chair Denny Oestreich stated that it is a good idea to get training sessions going again, get new material from ARRL, get ARRL to help. He is developing a plan. He has applied to ARRL to become an instructor in order to be able to buy materials less expensively. He has contacted all prior instructors but none have replied as willing to teach now. Should we advertise for students and when should classes start? We need to nail down a location and instructors before advertising. It would be good to have training end just before RARSfest so new hams can shop at the fest. Greg suggests using multiple instructors so each would cover limited material. Richard Kroeger N1FUA might volunteer to instruct and also Brantley could help.

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

At Large Directors:

Alan Pitegoff left Mark Kilmer a phone message about returning the RARS computer to Julie and suggested that Julie contact him after Thanksgiving regarding this.

Those directors present had no further input.

Other comments or questions:

There will be no December board meeting. Carl Davis said goodbyes as he departed from the board after 6 years. John Honeycutt thanked board members for their help during his term as president and wished FinGold well as incoming president.

Adjournment:

John Honeycutt asked for a motion to adjourn. It was so moved by Tadd Torborg, and the motion was seconded and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Royster, KT4JR, acting Secretary

ARISS contact scheduled Wednesday Feb 7, 2024

An ARISS contact is scheduled between Lilburn Elementary School and the International Space Station on Wednesday, 07 Feb 2024, 14:20:57 UTC (9:20:57 EDT).

The event will be live streamed on YouTube starting at 8:45 AM: <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCul4sKDBpERtEFs9bFrRMFA/live>

For those interested in listening to the downlink directly, please tune to 145.800MHz. In addition to the ARISS contact, several GARS members will be participating in a STEM Day event following the contact. The ARISS contact is being sponsored by both GARS and NFARL.

Ralph Pickwick KJ4CNC
Education Chairman
Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
www.gars.org

73 Dallas N4DDM

<https://www.rars.org>